## Population Estimates

In 2009, Alberta's population growth remained the strongest among provinces, but the rate of increase was substantially slower than in 2008. Alberta has now had two consecutive quarters of negative interprovincial migration. However, the net inflow of international migrants has remained strong for 2009.

Table 1 provides the population estimates and annual growth rates for Alberta and Canada. As shown in this table, Alberta's population was estimated to be 3,711,845 on January 1, 2010. This represents an annual growth of 68,093 persons (or 1.87%) during the year of 2009, comparing to a growth of 95,103 people (or 2.68%) in 2008. Although the Alberta population growth rate in 2009 was the lowest in five years, it was still 55% more than the national average of 1.20%.

**TABLE 1: POPULATION & GROWTH RATES CANADA & ALBERTA**

| | Population | | | Yearly Growth Rate | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jan 1 | Canada | Alberta | Jan 1 | Canada | Alberta |
| 2006 | 32,394,898 | 3,371,821 | | | |
| 2007 | 32,739,308 | 3,472,032 | 2007 | 1.06% | 2.97% |
| 2008 | 33,113,330 | 3,548,649 | 2008 | 1.14% | 2.21% |
| 2009 | 33,527,199 | 3,643,752 | 2009 | 1.25% | 2.68% |
| 2010 | 33,930,830 | 3,711,845 | 2010 | 1.20% | 1.87% |

*Source: Statistics Canada*

Table 2 presents population estimates for January 1, 2010 for all provinces and territories and the growth rates since January 1, 2008. As revealed in this table, British Columbia and Saskatchewan had the next highest growth rates among the provinces at 1.63% and 1.54% respectively.

## Migration

During the fourth quarter of 2009, Alberta experienced an interprovincial migration loss of 2,780 people, compared to a gain of 6,198 in the previous fourth quarter (Tables 3 and 5). This is the second consecutive quarterly interprovincial migration loss, the first time this has occurred since the fourth quarter of 1994.

As presented in Table 3, the continued high outflow of migrants to British Columbia was the main reason that Alberta had negative interprovincial migration in the fourth quarter of 2009. A total of 1,228 persons, approximately half of Alberta's net interprovincial outflow, moved to British Columbia.

In the fourth quarter of 2009, Alberta had a loss of 1,425 in total net non-permanent residents, the first time since the fourth quarter of 2002. However, the combined net outflow of Alberta's 2,780 interprovincial migrants and 1,425 net non-permanent residents in the present quarter was offset by the net inflow of 4,720 international migrants choosing Alberta (excluding net non-permanent residents).

On a yearly basis, as shown in Table 4, the top three provinces with the highest interprovincial migration gain in 2009 were British Columbia (7,499), Alberta (6,566), and Newfoundland (2,749). In 2009, the interprovincial gain for Alberta (6,566) was about one third of the previous year (22,202).

**TABLE 2: POPULATION OF PROVINCES/TERRITORIES AS OF JANUARY 1, 2010 & GROWTH RATES SINCE JANUARY 1, 2009**

| | NL. | P.E.I. | N.S. | N.B. | QUE. | ONT. | MAN. | SASK. | ALTA. | B.C. | Y.T. | N.W.T. | NVT. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Population | 510,805 | 141,232 | 940,744 | 750,658 | 7,870,026 | 13,134,455 | 1,228,984 | 1,038,018 | 3,711,845 | 4,494,232 | 33,992 | 43,281 | 32,558 |
| Growth Rate | 0.62% | 0.90% | 0.31% | 0.31% | 1.04% | 1.07% | 1.36% | 1.54% | 1.87% | 1.63% | 1.55% | -0.32% | 2.53% |

*Source: Statistics Canada*

## Natural Increase

Between October 1 and December 31 of 2009, Alberta recorded a natural increase (births minus deaths) of 7,351 people. The province experienced 12,908 births and 5,557 deaths in the fourth quarter of 2009.

## Summary Statistics for 2009

| | |
|---|---|
| Population (Jan 1, 2009): | 3,643,752 |
| Births (Jan - Dec): | 52,119 |
| Deaths (Jan - Dec): | 21,781 |
| Net Interprovincial Migration (Jan - Dec): | 6,566 |
| Net International Migration (Jan - Dec): | 23,201 |
| Net Non-Permanent Residents (Jan - Dec): | 7,988 |
| Growth (Jan - Dec): | 68,093 |
| Population (Jan. 1, 2010): | 3,711,845 |

**TABLE 3: ORIGIN & DESTINATION OF INTERPROVINCIAL MIGRANTS**
**OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2009**

*Destination*

| Origin | Nfld. | P.E.I. | N.S. | N.B. | QUE. | ONT. | MAN. | SASK. | AB. | B.C. | Y.T. | NWT | NVT. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nfld and Lab. | 0 | 24 | 261 | 80 | 50 | 366 | 0 | 51 | 575 | 97 | 0 | 42 | 0 |
| Prince Edward I. | 31 | 0 | 91 | 117 | 77 | 322 | 0 | 0 | 114 | 61 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nova Scotia | 366 | 106 | 0 | 371 | 136 | 1,047 | 85 | 55 | 492 | 239 | 0 | 0 | 6 |
| New Brunswick | 132 | 75 | 458 | 0 | 299 | 740 | 52 | 5 | 365 | 132 | 0 | 0 | 42 |
| Quebec | 37 | 5 | 81 | 345 | 0 | 2,853 | 67 | 65 | 609 | 558 | 6 | 24 | 20 |
| Ontario | 844 | 93 | 1,176 | 639 | 2,977 | 0 | 969 | 727 | 3,238 | 3,054 | 88 | 24 | 25 |
| Manitoba | 37 | 22 | 80 | 36 | 122 | 1,075 | 0 | 477 | 815 | 761 | 4 | 14 | 0 |
| Saskatchewan | 0 | 0 | 26 | 20 | 51 | 735 | 240 | 0 | 1,809 | 699 | 18 | 4 | 16 |
| Alberta | 574 | 74 | 799 | 720 | 655 | 3,398 | 982 | 2,400 | 0 | 5,058 | 68 | 176 | 0 |
| British Columbia | 91 | 46 | 276 | 103 | 478 | 2,502 | 459 | 543 | 3,830 | 0 | 90 | 39 | 16 |
| Yukon Territory | 8 | 0 | 15 | 0 | 0 | 38 | 0 | 40 | 51 | 109 | 0 | 24 | 0 |
| Northwest Terr. | 20 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 74 | 43 | 8 | 17 | 174 | 11 | 42 | 0 | 26 |
| Nunavut Terr. | 75 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 18 | 23 | 0 | 0 | 52 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 |
| | **Nfld.** | **P.E.I.** | **N.S.** | **N.B.** | **QUE.** | **ONT.** | **MAN.** | **SASK.** | **AB.** | **B.C.** | **Yukon** | **NWT.** | **NVT.** |
| **In Migration** | **2,215** | **445** | **3,263** | **2,438** | **4,937** | **13,142** | **2,862** | **4,380** | **12,124** | **10,779** | **316** | **354** | **151** |
| **Out Migration** | **1,546** | **813** | **2,903** | **2,300** | **4,670** | **13,854** | **3,443** | **3,618** | **14,904** | **8,473** | **285** | **422** | **175** |
| **Net Migration** | **669** | **-368** | **360** | **138** | **267** | **-712** | **-581** | **762** | **-2,780** | **2,306** | **31** | **-68** | **-24** |

*Source: Statistics Canada*

**TABLE 4: NET INTERPROVINCIAL MIGRATION BY PROVINCE AND TERRITORY, 2009**

| 2009 | NL. | P.E.I. | N.S. | N.B. | QUE. | ONT. | MAN. | SASK. | ALTA. | B.C. | Y.T. | N.W.T. | NVT. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Jan-Mar | 98 | -66 | -357 | 61 | -2,016 | -5,015 | -181 | 545 | 7,144 | -16 | -60 | -187 | 50 |
| Apr-Jun | 1,119 | -117 | -284 | -121 | -3,465 | -4,006 | -94 | 550 | 4,737 | 1,752 | -43 | -76 | 48 |
| Jul-Sep | 863 | -283 | 320 | 38 | -120 | -1,748 | -712 | 823 | -2,535 | 3,457 | 174 | -357 | 80 |
| Oct-Dec | 669 | -368 | 360 | 138 | 267 | -712 | -581 | 762 | -2,780 | 2,306 | 31 | -68 | -24 |
| Total | **2,749** | **-834** | **39** | **116** | **-5,334** | **-11,481** | **-1,568** | **2,680** | **6,566** | **7,499** | **102** | **-688** | **154** |

*Source: Statistics Canada*

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**Alberta Finance and Enterprise**

## TABLE 5: ALBERTA MIGRATION BY QUARTER

| | Interprovincial Migration | | | International Migration | | | | | Total | NPR* | Total+NPR |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Quarter | In | Out | Net Interprovincial | Immigrants | Emigrants | Net Temporary Emigrants | Returning Emigrants | Net International Migration | Total Net Migration | Net Non-Permanent Residents | Net Migration including Net NPR |
| **2005** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jan-Mar | 18,653 | 10,363 | **8,290** | 4,355 | 931 | 505 | 582 | **3,501** | **11,791** | 488 | **12,279** |
| Apr-Jun | 25,803 | 14,638 | **11,165** | 5,291 | 1,082 | 541 | 1,068 | **4,736** | **15,901** | 761 | **16,662** |
| Jul-Sep | 25,027 | 14,884 | **10,143** | 5,591 | 1,920 | 718 | 1,280 | **4,233** | **14,376** | 1,621 | **15,997** |
| Oct-Dec | 20,824 | 7,004 | **13,820** | 4,168 | 1,050 | 522 | 496 | **3,092** | **16,912** | 256 | **17,168** |
| *Total* | *90,307* | *46,889* | ***43,418*** | *19,405* | *4,983* | *2,286* | *3,426* | ***15,562*** | ***58,980*** | ***3,126*** | ***62,106*** |
| **2006** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jan-Mar | 23,163 | 10,843 | **12,320** | 4,727 | 1,033 | 519 | 536 | **3,711** | **16,031** | 1,546 | **17,577** |
| Apr-Jun | 22,820 | 13,308 | **9,512** | 5,445 | 1,170 | 549 | 885 | **4,611** | **14,123** | 2,210 | **16,333** |
| Jul-Sep | 34,456 | 17,727 | **16,729** | 5,714 | 2,309 | 747 | 2,233 | **4,891** | **21,620** | 2,988 | **24,608** |
| Oct-Dec | 20,628 | 12,950 | **7,678** | 4,832 | 1,280 | 543 | 601 | **3,610** | **11,288** | 1,185 | **12,473** |
| *Total* | *101,067* | *54,828* | ***46,239*** | *20,718* | *5,792* | *2,358* | *4,255* | ***16,823*** | ***63,062*** | ***7,929*** | ***70,991*** |
| **2007** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jan-Mar | 18,625 | 13,900 | **4,725** | 4,015 | 980 | 483 | 579 | **3,131** | **7,856** | 4,106 | **11,962** |
| Apr-Jun | 21,947 | 17,270 | **4,677** | 5,595 | 1,252 | 538 | 935 | **4,740** | **9,417** | 5,826 | **15,243** |
| Jul-Sep | 26,228 | 24,023 | **2,205** | 6,171 | 2,343 | 755 | 2,233 | **5,306** | **7,511** | 4,823 | **12,334** |
| Oct-Dec | 15,614 | 13,579 | **2,035** | 5,085 | 1,268 | 540 | 601 | **3,878** | **5,913** | 2,487 | **8,400** |
| *Total* | *82,414* | *68,772* | ***13,642*** | *20,866* | *5,843* | *2,316* | *4,348* | ***17,055*** | ***30,697*** | ***17,242*** | ***47,939*** |
| **2008** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jan-Mar | 18,572 | 14,710 | **3,862** | 5,352 | 961 | 480 | 579 | **4,490** | **8,352** | 3,985 | **12,337** |
| Apr-Jun | 24,023 | 16,808 | **7,215** | 7,196 | 1,232 | 534 | 935 | **6,365** | **13,580** | 7,241 | **20,821** |
| Jul-Sep | 30,265 | 25,338 | **4,927** | 6,455 | 2,347 | 754 | 2,233 | **5,587** | **10,514** | 7,604 | **18,118** |
| Oct-Dec | 20,152 | 13,954 | **6,198** | 5201 | 1,279 | 541 | 601 | **3,982** | **10,180** | 4,480 | **14,660** |
| *Total* | *93,012* | *70,810* | ***22,202*** | *24,204* | *5,819* | *2,309* | *4,348* | ***20,424*** | ***42,626*** | ***23,310*** | ***65,936*** |
| **2009** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Jan-Mar | 24,982 | 17,838 | **7,144** | 5,279 | 962 | 480 | 579 | **4,416** | **11,560** | 4,380 | **15,940** |
| Apr-Jun | 25,693 | 20,956 | **4,737** | 6,925 | 1,237 | 534 | 935 | **6,089** | **10,826** | 2,594 | **13,420** |
| Jul-Sep | 20,790 | 23,325 | **-2,535** | 8,865 | 2,368 | 754 | 2,233 | **7,976** | **5,441** | 2,439 | **7,880** |
| Oct-Dec | 12,124 | 14,904 | **-2,780** | 5,947 | 1,287 | 541 | 601 | **4,720** | **1,940** | *-1,425* | **515** |
| *Total* | *83,589* | *77,023* | ***6,566*** | *27,016* | *5,854* | *2,309* | *4,348* | ***23,201*** | ***29,767*** | ***7,988*** | ***37,755*** |

* Estimates of non-permanent residents (NPRs) represent the number of non-permanent residents living in Canada. The five following groups are referred to as NPRs: (1) persons residing in Canada claiming refugee status; (2) persons residing in Canada who hold a study permit; (3) persons residing in Canada who hold a work permit; (4) persons residing in Canada who hold a Minister's permit; (5) all non-Canadian born dependants of persons claiming refugee status, or of persons holding study permits, work permits or Minister's permits and living in Canada.

**Source: Statistics Canada**

**Prepared By: Alberta Finance and Enterprise, Economics, Demography and Public Finance, March 25, 2010**